



## Bellwether Magazine

---

Volume 1  
Number 10 *Winter 1983*

---

Article 9

1-1-1983

# Animal Crackers

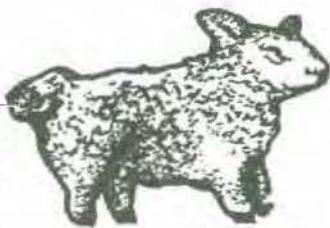
M. Josephine Deubler  
*University of Pennsylvania*

---

This paper is posted at ScholarlyCommons. <http://repository.upenn.edu/bellwether/vol1/iss10/9>  
For more information, please contact [libraryrepository@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:libraryrepository@pobox.upenn.edu).

# ANIMAL CRACKERS

## COLD WEATHER ADVICE



Dogs kept in apartments, especially overheated apartments, should wear a sweater when they are taken out in windy, cold weather. This also is advisable for any short-haired dog, especially small breeds. Large, long-haired dogs usually are outside much of the time and may not need this protection.

If the dog is kept outside, it needs a dry bed where there is protection from wind. Different breeds have different requirements so there can be no general rule about how much heat and protection is necessary. However, young puppies must be kept warm.

City dogs often walk on sidewalks which have been salted. It is well to wash their feet when they come inside. Use warm water and dry with a towel. Check between the pads.

Don't neglect regular grooming. This is better than bathing which should be done only when necessary.

Keep all dogs away from antifreeze. It's poison! Dogs seem to love it and it can kill.

## BULL TERRIERS



There are three breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club which go back to the English Bulldog crossed with terriers. There are two varieties of the Bull Terrier, the white and the colored. About 1860, the white variety became very popular and became known as "the white cavalier." The colored variety was recognized by A.K.C. in 1936. Both varieties have the same breed standard except for the color. The breed requires responsible owners and must be trained and controlled. It has been said that no one just likes a Bull Terrier, they either hate or adore him.

The Staffordshire Bull Terrier is a smaller breed with more Bulldog characteristics. It is 14 to 16" high and weighs about 25 to 35 pounds. It was first shown in the Terrier Group at A.K.C. shows in 1975.

The American Staffordshire Terrier is also known as the Pit Bull Terrier. It was recognized by A.K.C. in 1935 as the Staffordshire Terrier and the Staffordshire Terrier Club of America is its parent breed club. In 1972, its name was changed to American Staffordshire Terrier. The United Kennel Club registers them as the American Pit Bull Terrier. This breed has a reputation as a fighting dog but they can be trained. Responsible owners keep their dogs under control.

Most breeds of dogs were developed for a specific purpose. The history and characteristics of a breed must be considered when selecting a dog to live with a family. In some breeds, training is much more important than in others. With these breeds, it's necessary to understand that the dog must be taught how to behave. Not everyone can do this.

## VETERINARIAN'S OATH

Being admitted to the profession of veterinary medicine, I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of animal health, the relief of animal suffering, the conservation of livestock resources, the promotion of public health and the advancement of medical knowledge.

I will practice my profession conscientiously, with dignity and in keeping with the principles of veterinary medical ethics.

I accept as a lifelong obligation the continued improvement of my professional knowledge and competence.

## EYELID ABNORMALITIES



Puppies are born with their eyes closed. They open at about ten days to two weeks. If opening is delayed, a bacterial infection may develop and the unopened eye may appear enlarged. Veterinary attention is indicated.

Eyes should be checked regularly for discharges, redness or any sign of irritation. The eyelids protect the eye. Prompt treatment and correction of defects are essential to keep the eye healthy.

**Lagophthalmos** is incomplete closure of the eyelids and is most common in breeds which have prominent bulging eyes (Pugs, Pekingese, etc.). The eyelids don't close completely when the dog blinks and the dog may sleep with its lids partially opened. This may lead to drying and ulceration of the cornea. Artificial tears will help prevent irritation but surgery may be indicated to correct the condition.

Eyelash abnormalities may cause irritation and may be hereditary. **Trichiasis** is the condition where normally placed eyelashes irritate the cornea, while **distichiasis** refers to abnormal eyelashes. Surgery may be necessary to prevent loss of vision due to excessive irritation.

**Entropion** is the inward rolling of the margin of the lid. It may be corrected surgically.

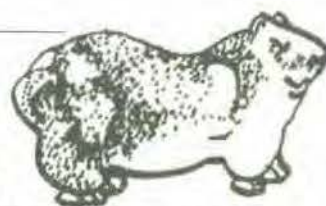
**Ectropion** is drooping or outward rolling of the lid. It is a breed characteristic in Bloodhounds and St. Bernards. It can become a problem if debris accumulates.

Breeders should keep in mind that these conditions may be inherited. While the defects may be breed characteristics, exaggeration should be avoided. Surgical correction may result in a "normal" eye but should this dog be used for breeding?

**Blepharitis** refers to any inflammation of the eyelids. The signs include excessive tearing, redness and sufficient discomfort to cause the dog to rub the eye and cause further damage. Treatment may require frequent use of ointments and sometimes antibiotics given by mouth.

Don't delay getting veterinary advice if there is an eye problem.

## RULES ABOUT A.K.C. REGISTRATION



It is necessary to register the entire litter before an individual dog can be registered with the American Kennel Club. The sire and dam must be registered with A.K.C. and the litter must be born in the U.S.A. If the litter application is accepted, the A.K.C. will send the litter owner one application for the individual registration of each dog in the litter. "Papers" may or may not include this application form.

The breeder is the owner of the dam at the time of mating. If the dam was under eight months or over twelve years old at time of mating, the A.K.C. requires satisfactory proof. The same applies to a sire under seven months or over twelve years of age. There are additional rules if artificial insemination or frozen semen are used.

As a general rule, a pure-bred dog cannot be refused registration because required signatures cannot be obtained. However, conditional agreements may be recognized if they are in writing. This may be done if a puppy from a registered litter has a serious fault and is not considered suitable for showing or breeding. The buyer must agree in writing that the dog will not be registered. The seller then will retain the application form.

There are regulations which require record-keeping. Identification of registered animals by tattooing is recommended but this is not required by A.K.C.

If you purchase a puppy and the seller does not have an application for registration, obtain a signed statement giving the following information:

- Breed, sex and color of the dog
- Date of birth of the dog
- Registered names of the dog's sire and dam
- Name of the breeder.

If this information is not available, it would be better not to buy the dog, particularly if it is planned to show or breed it.

Copies of Registration Rules and application forms are available from the American Kennel Club, 51 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10010